

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the amendments below. This listing of claims replaces the previous version of the claims.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): A clip applying apparatus comprising:

- a handle assembly;
- a body portion defining a longitudinal axis and extending distally from the handle assembly; and
- a jaw mechanism including first and second jaws configured to receive a clip therebetween, the first jaw being movable in relation to the second jaw between open and closed positions, each jaw being curved upwardly towards its distal end along the longitudinal axis of the body portion, each curved jaw having a radius of curvature "r" of between about .5 inch and about .9 inch.

Claim 2 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein r is about .7 inch.

Claim 3 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the handle assembly includes an actuation member, the clip applying apparatus further including a closure member movably positioned within the body portion, the closure member being operably connected to the actuation member and movable from a retracted position to an advanced position in response to movement of the actuation member through an actuation stroke.

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Claim 4 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the jaw mechanism includes a body and first and second spaced shank members extending distally from the body, the first and second jaws extending from a distal end of the first and second shank members.

Claim 5 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein each of the first and second shank members includes a cam surface, the closure member being movable into engagement with the cam surfaces of the first and second shank members to move the first and second jaws from the open position to the closed position.

Claim 6 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the jaw mechanism is of monolithic construction.

Claim 7 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 1, further including a rotatable knob supported by the handle assembly, the body portion being operably connected to the rotatable knob such that rotation of the rotatable knob in relation to the handle assembly effects rotation of the body portion and the jaw mechanism in relation to the handle assembly about a longitudinal axis of the body portion.

Claim 8 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the actuation member includes a pivotable trigger.

Claim 9 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 1, further including a clip having a pair of legs and a backspan, the clip being configured to be supported between the first and second jaws.

Claim 10 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein the clip has a radius of curvature which is substantially the same as the radius of curvature "r" of the first and second jaws.

Claim 11 (Original): A clip applying apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein the clip is deformable and is deformed as the clip is supplied into the jaws to have a radius of curvature substantially the same as radius of curvature "r" of the first and second jaws.

Claims 12-20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (Previously presented): A clip applying apparatus comprising:

a handle assembly;

a body portion defining a longitudinal axis and extending distally from the handle assembly;

a jaw mechanism including first and second jaws configured to receive a clip therebetween, the first jaw being movable in relation to the second jaw between open and closed positions, each jaw having a distal end, a proximal end extending out of the body portion, and a lateral edge; and

wherein from the proximal end to the distal end, the lateral edge moves in a direction spatially oriented from a lower elevation at the proximal end to a higher elevation at the distal end with a radius of curvature "r" of between about .5 inch and about .9 inch.

Claim 22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Previously presented): The clip applying apparatus of claim 21, wherein the jaw mechanism includes the distal end being configured to separate tissue from surrounding tissue, wherein the distal end is configured to manipulate tissue at a surgical site.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The clip applying apparatus of claim 21, wherein the jaw mechanism includes a channel, the channel being located at an inner sidewall of

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each of the first and second jaws.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The clip applying apparatus of claim 21, wherein the lateral edge has an overall radius of curvature with multiple and different radii.

Claim 26 (Cancelled).